



AIDIA PERU

SPRING 2021 UPDATE



STORIES OF IMPACT

Many are coming to Christ

Pastor Oracio told us, "In this pandemic and quarantine time, many people have been searching for God. . . . Of the many who have been seeking God, 11 people were baptized in affirmation of their faith in the Lord. **Before the pandemic in the church, we were about 50; now we estimate that when the services reopen, we will reach about 100.**" Imagine the impact when the entire Bible is available later this year!

Rocío and her husband Enrique help facilitate the use and promotion of the Scriptures. They testify, "We feel grateful to God for the work that He allows us to do. . . . Many tell us that they are getting to know God more personally. The social support from AIDIA has opened many houses for preaching the gospel. In these times of pandemic there are many who are believing in God. **Even the authorities in some communities have asked us to hold outdoor evangelistic meetings! This is incredible.**"

Pastors get creative

Even during this pandemic, dedicated Quechua speakers are sharing God's Word in the language they know best. Translation work continues remotely through AIDIA, our partner in Bible translation among the Eastern Apurímac Quechua people in Peru. Many local Christians have also gone to incredible lengths to minister to others. Some travel for days by foot, and during lockdown some pastors hold multiple daily services by cellphone, using group calls.

Pastor Carlos Arias reported that during the quarantine, it was difficult to help the Christians in the church that he pastors. He wasn't able to use Zoom or other virtual platforms because neither he nor the believers he serves had ways to connect.

"So I wrote teachings and small devotionals in Quechua and took them to the church members' homes to read. I also sent them to those who had access to WhatsApp. Every time I met the church members, especially the older Quechua-speaking women, they began to cry because they didn't understand why they could not meet in the church. They want everything to return to normal soon so they can meet in church." Please keep these communities in your prayers.



Recent Highlights (In The Past Six Months)

- Bible translation progressed remotely without issues!
- The team visited 27 communities. There, they conducted Bible studies, evangelism, leadership training, family worship, discipleship and training in public speaking.
- 48 radio programs with the theme “Valuing the Family” are broadcast from Monday to Friday from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. We estimate that more than 8,000 people listen to these programs.
- 2,419 Quechua New Testaments have been sold, alongside 7,015 audio copies and 2,500 tracts and pamphlets.
- 6 new churches were planted, and other churches were supported.
- The children’s team travelled to 14 communities to train Sunday school teachers. They also continued to make recordings for the Sunday school curriculum.
- Nearly 690 children participated in 36 Sunday schools. They were also given gift boxes donated by Samaritan’s Purse. Other gifts were also distributed, leading to the discipling of another 40 children through churches.
- The government approved the “Shalom” school as an educational institution! This AIDIA school promotes strong Christian values and will help AIDIA become self-sufficient in the long run.
- More than 2,300 food baskets containing essential goods were distributed in 75 churches.
- The Peruvian congress recently elected a new president who is a centrist, moderate politician. We envision no opposition to the church from this new government.
- Although Covid-19 cases are on the rise, many people have relaxed the restrictions which may increase contagion risks and extend the restrictions.



Upcoming Goals

- Complete the entire Bible by July 2021!
- Promote the use of the New Testament and portions of the Old Testament in 40 churches and groups. This will affect approximately 1,000 children and adults. So far, much of this outreach has happened over the phone. We pray that more in-person visits will soon be possible.
- Promote the use of the Scriptures through audiovisuals, radio, TV, and audio Scripture players like Proclaimers and Messengers. The focus will be on TV and radio broadcasts.



Pray with us

Dear God, we continue to pray for the Covid-19 situation. Please bring resolution so that travel can resume within communities and Bible translation work can continue. May your presence be felt by those who are isolated and missing their church communities.

We pray for the completion of the Bible, may this go smoothly! We pray that Eastern Apurimac Quechua people have open hearts to the gospel. May lives continue to be transformed through your Word.

Please give the children’s team wisdom in rescheduling activities. In the midst of the pandemic, may many open their hearts to receive you, Lord. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

